

## Wisconsin Schools of Recognition Grant

### Program Ideas

The following are program ideas that could be included in your grant proposal.

\*\*\*These are ONLY ideas and this is not an exhaustive list\*\*\*

#### *Intensive Professional Development Programs:*

- Provide on-going, embedded professional development for staff that includes follow up regarding implementation strategies and assistance, formative assessments to determine the impact on teaching and learning, and teacher pay incentives for participation in the program. Professional development could be administered by the school, district, in collaboration with institutes of higher learning, or outside agencies. The timeline for professional development could be intensive over the summer, as an “institute,” and/or throughout the year.

Some potential areas of focus include, but are not limited to:

- Teacher coaching
- Lesson Study (grade level collaboration in the development of lesson plans, collaborative classroom observations, and protocol-led feedback)
- Critical Friends Groups
- Professional Learning Communities
- Response to Intervention (RtI) (including, but not limited to: Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) data systems, intervention strategies, etc.)
- Assessment literacy
- Differentiating instruction
- Curriculum planning
- Classroom management
- Data based decision making
- Programs to implement new and innovative curriculum design

#### *Best Practice Visits:*

- Identify districts/schools across the country that are being nationally recognized, visit those districts/schools to see what they are doing, and write an action plan for implementing some of the research-proven practices (e.g., a visit to Adlai Stevenson High School by Chicago) AND/OR
- Provide professional development for your staff around a specific area of focus. Set-up and implement a “model program” that shows off the hard work of your staff on the area of focus. Invite neighboring schools to come and observe your model program. After observations take place, provide follow-up support and assistance as the visiting staff begins their own implementation.

#### *New Teacher Residency Program:*

- During a one year residency, first year classroom teachers will be assigned a reduced classroom teaching case load (e.g., 50 percent) without reductions in pay or benefits. The remainder of time is spent modeling, reflecting, and working with mentors and Master Educators.

#### *Pay incentives for **Take One!** Participants:*

- **Take One!** participants study the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), complete a video portfolio entry featuring a classroom of pre-K-12 students, and submit the entry to NBPTS for scoring in accordance with the deadlines and policies of the current NBPTS assessment program.

#### *Pay incentives to Conduct **Action Research:***

- Action research is an approach to professional development and improved student learning in which teachers systematically reflect on their work, make changes in their practice, and record their work in a form which is readily available to, and understandable by, other teachers.

- Fund pay incentives that encourage teachers or groups of teachers to conduct action research.
- Develop a system for sharing “lessons learned” with other teachers within the district or group of districts.

*On-site Licensure Programs:*

- Create a partnership with an institution of higher education to provide a licensure program on-site that focuses on an area identified as needing improvement (e.g., 316 reading license, special education license, English Language Learners license, etc.) and provide pay incentives for teacher participation.

*Pay incentives for Expanded Hours or School Year:*

- Design/implement/expand after school or summer school programs or create a 1-1 tutoring program for the most struggling students, within or outside the school day, and provide teacher pay incentives for participation.

**Other Suggestions for Fundable Activities:**

*Implement new and innovative curriculum or programs:*

- This may include costs for purchasing the curriculum or program, professional development, or training in the curriculum or program, and costs for implementing the curriculum or program. Some examples of curriculum or programs include, but are not limited to:
  - Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)
  - Expeditionary Learning
  - International Baccalaureate
  - Project-based Learning
  - Theme-based Curriculum
  - Inquiry Process
  - Project Lead the Way

*Institute a highly effective intervention program:*

- Implement a program such as Reading Recovery in order to dramatically reduce the number of first-grade students who have extreme difficulty learning to read and write.
- Design, implement, and/or expand after school or summer school programs or create a one-on-one tutoring program for the most struggling students, within or outside the school day.

*Improve/implement/expand data systems:*

- This could include the development and/or implementation of early warning systems, data dashboards, or student intervention monitoring systems.

*Increase graduation rates/reduce drop-out rate:*

- Expand dual-credit options at high school level (e.g., articulated classes with technical colleges, AP courses, early college/middle college) or create a credit recovery program for those at risk of dropping out.

*Outside evaluation:*

- Have a review or audit of the school performed by a highly-qualified external reviewer to identify areas of strength, weakness, and next edges of growth based on research on effective schools. Create an action plan based on the review results for moving forward.